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contracts were approved by Kriz. Agreements were sometimes made after the work was already in progress, or even after the job had been finished. These contracts were approved without being checked for accuracy. The three defendants caused abnormally high bonus payments to be made, sometimes in cases where the terms of the contract had not been satisfied, or where the quality of the work performed was unsatisfactory. In return for these falsifications, they received up to 13 percent of the bonus payments from the payees. Sometimes this percentage was withheld by compulsion; at other times the leaders of the various crews gladly gave their assent to this fraud. The defendants all had large sums of money in their possession, totaling more than the largest bonus payment for each worker.

Another defendant, Nezgod, was found to be in possession of some 55,000 crowns belonging to the combine, which, he said, he had intended to embezzle. Dostal, the combine economist, was on trial because he approved all the bonus payments without questioning their accuracy. He did institute a payroll check in December, but failed to remedy the situation. Similarly, the defendant Sasin, whose position as chief of the wage and work section expressly required that he check up on any extraordinary bonus payments, failed to perform his duty properly. Sasin, in fact, knew nothing of the bonus payments.

All defendants confessed their guilt. They drew sentences ranging from a 9-year prison term plus the loss of civil rights for that period and the loss of all property plus a fine for Ricanek to merely a 9-month prison term for Kucera and Sasin.

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